

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA N	FORM NO. 480
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wn Lexington

dress 29 Bloomfield Street

storic Name Rev. Dr. Hamlin House

e: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

te c. 1885

Source Hudson 1913, II:264

Style *Queen Anne*  
~~Shingle Style~~

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric clapboards, shingles

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) one-story  
addition to the facade with semicircular  
bay window (post-World War II)

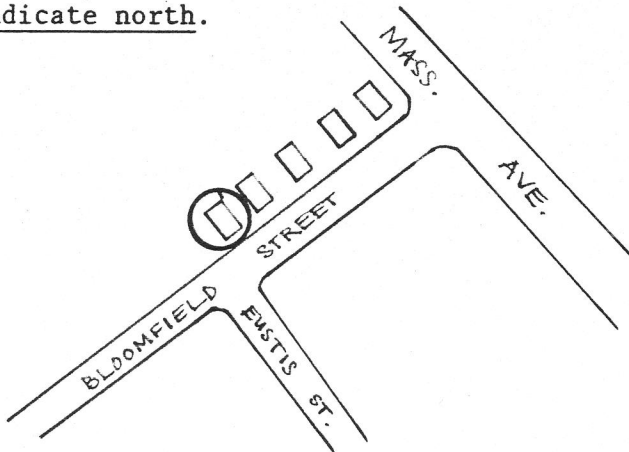
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 30000 ft.<sup>2</sup>

Setting Suburban residential street;  
a mix of 1870s and 1880s houses and  
twentieth century infill.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

This side-hall-plan gable-to-the-street Vernacular house is noteworthy for the decorative treatment of the gable. Rows of staggered butt and other patterned shingles are separated by an area of clapboards set on a diagonal. Although patterned shingling, particularly in the gable, is characteristic of Bloomfield Street area houses of the 1880s, this house employs it the most imaginatively.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The house was owned from 1885 until after 1906 by Rev. Cyrus Hamlin, missionary and educator, and Bloomfield Street's most distinguished resident in the late nineteenth century. Hamlin had been head of Bebek Theological Seminary in Constantinople from 1839 to 1860; founder and builder of Robert College, Constantinople, and president from 1860 to 1876; professor in the Bangor Theological Seminary from 1887 to 1880; and president of Middlebury College from 1880 to 1886. He was the author of "Among the Turtles," "My Life and Times," and of many articles in periodicals (Hudson, II:264). Rev. E.G. Porter of the Hancock Congregational Church in Lexington became acquainted with Rev. Hamlin in missionary circles and was instrumental in persuading him to settle here when he retired.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 264. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913.

1887 Directory

1875 atlas

1889 atlas

1906 atlas